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# Sen. Kennedy Lays Rift With Johnson to Policy

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Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.), joining Senators in a farewell tribute to President Johnson, said yesterday the difference between the Kennedys and Mr. Johnson stemmed from public policy, not personal grievance.

In a Senate speech, Kennedy said, "the circumstances which brought President Johnson to the office he has held made it inevitabe that there would be speculations about strained relations between hm and my family.

"President Johnson was a loyal lieutenant of John F. Kennedy who had chosen him as his constitutional successor. He campaigned hard and effectively for the election of Sen. Robert Kennedy and myself to the U.S. Senate.

"He was extremely gracious and understanding to all of us after the events of November, 1963."

Kennedy added, "The differences that developed later on came not from personal grievances but from the obligation of men in public life to discharge their responsibilities to the people of the United States as they saw them and from what at the time were fundamental differences over important public policies.

"I know that President Johnson understood this, and history will as well."

Kennedy was one of many Senators—Democrats and Republicans alike—who spoke during a two-hour round of "LBJ Day" tributes.

Sen. Mike Mansfield, who succeeded Mr. Johnson as Senate Democratic Leader, said the President "kept alive the promise of liberty and justice for all."

Sen. Barry Goldwater of Arizona, the Republican who lost the Presidency to Mr. Johnson in the 1964 landslide, said the outgoing Chief Executive had served "with credit and honor."

Republican Leader Everett M. Dirksen of Illinois intoned: "Hail and farewell and Godspeed."